

Dear Sirs,

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. If Sinclair is allowed to do this with no fines or retribution, they should be forced to air "Fahrenheit 911" or another anti-Bush film in the same time slot the next night.

You have the responsibility to assure all of the public airwave laws are upheld. This includes the equal time statutes for political candidates.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. I will be watching the handling of this, and will be involved when their license comes up for renewal.

Thank you,

Marina Parowski